

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Attorney Docket No.: 3339.12US02

Juryozawa et al.

Application No.: Division of Application No. 10/108,770

Filed: January 16, 2004

For: VACUUM HEAT TREATMENT FURNACE AND METHOD OF AND APPARATUS  
FOR MEASURING CARBON CONCENTRATION IN ATMOSPHERE HAVING  
REDUCED PRESSURE

---

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

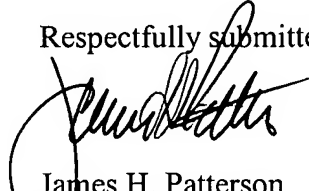
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the application. No certification or fee is required.

Division of Application No. 10/108,770

Copies of the references were cited by or submitted to the Office in Patent Application No. 10/108,770, filed March 28, 2002, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these references are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

Respectfully submitted,



James H. Patterson  
Registration No. 30,673

Customer No. 24113  
Patterson, Thunte, Skaar & Christensen, P.A.  
4800 IDS Center  
80 South 8th Street  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-2100  
Telephone: (612) 349-5741

Substitute for form 1449/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	Division of 10/108,770
				Filing Date	January 16, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Juryozawa et al.
				Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	3339.12US02

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US-2,698,222	12/1954	Davis
		US-3,817,084	06/1974	Whitehead
		US-4,118,016	10/03/1978	Westeren
		US-5,643,987	07/01/1997	Dismukes
		US-5,713,979	02/03/1998	Nicholson
		US-2003/0020214	01/30/2003	Poor
		US-		
		US-		
		US-		
		US-		
		US-		
		US-		
		US-		
		US-		
		US-		
		US-		
		US-		
		US-		
		US-		
		US-		

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		EP 0191973	08/1986		
		JP 35411/1970	11/12/1970	Toyata Jidosha	
		JP 04103801	04/06/1992		
		JP 46397/1991	11/30/1992	Dowa Mining Co.	

EXAMINER SIGNATURE	DATE CONSIDERED
-----------------------	--------------------

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	Division of 10/108,770
				Filing Date	January 16, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Juryozawa et al.
				Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	3339.12US02
<b>NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS</b>					
EXAMINER INITIAL*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published			T <sup>2</sup>
		JP 2001 012861 Abstract, Database WPI, Section Ch, Week 200123, XP-02211102, Derwent Publications Ltd.			
EXAMINER SIGNATURE				DATE CONSIDERED	
<p>*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.</p> <p>This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 120 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.</i></p>					